ed. In order to prevent the passage of the secretion from the wound into the abdominal cavity, the woman was now placed on her abdomen, and a clyster of starch, with opium, was administered at once. The purging and painful sensations soon diminished, and the discharge from the wound took place with its former abundance. Cicatrization now rapidly advanced, the patient taking bark, columba root, and wine, and on the eleventh day after the operation the patient was able to leave her bed. The secretion of milk was small, and the infant was nourished artificially; however, it thrived well.—*Kleinert's Repertorium.*

58. *Case of Cæsarean Section successfully performed.*—By Dr. Von der Fuhr, of Dülken. The subject of this case was a female, 36 years of age. Labour had commenced twelve hours before the operation. This woman had already borne four children without any particular difficulty; but after her last delivery she commenced experiencing pains in the limbs, and especially in the region of the pelvis; these gradually increased to such a degree, that she was at last unable to move or walk. On examining the pelvis, it was found that the ossa pubis had inclined inwards towards each other in such a manner, that the arch of the pubis was completely gone, and the two bones formed an acute angle at the symphysis. The promontory could be easily reached with the finger; the antero-posterior diameter was two inches and a quarter; the transverse diameter was very small, and especially the oblique one. The whole inlet of the pelvis was considerably narrowed. Under these circumstances the author considered the only hope for mother and child lay in performing the cæsarean operation. This was accordingly done in the usual manner, and a healthy child extracted. After the operation the patient seemed more lively than could have been expected, but in a few days unfavourable symptoms set in, viz., frequent vomiting and costiveness. Some calomel with an occasional enema, was administered; this brought away a quantity of feces and wind, and the patient felt much improved. The amelioration continued for the following days: the lochia now set in, and milk was secreted from the mammæ; however, the wound did not present an appearance of speedy union; it was half open, and at the second dressing its edges were completely separated. The author, therefore, thought it best to heal by the second intention; the wound soon began to suppurate; every thing went on well, and it was healed in less than seven weeks. During this period the woman did not suffer from any of her former pains, and was carefully restored. The child died on the fifth week.—*Ibid.*

CHEMISTRY.

59. *Analysis of the Brain.*—According to M. Couerbe, the brain, when examined with a powerful microscope, appears to be composed of globules which are slightly elliptical, and are larger in the gray substance than in the white. These globules are coagulable by acids, like those of milk and the blood, and by a great number of other substances.

M. Couerbe finds in the brain:—1st. A pulverulent yellow fat, *stéarconote.* 2nd. An elastic yellow fat, *cérancéphalote.* 3d. A reddish yellow oil, *éléancephol.* 4th. A white fatty matter, *cérebrote.* 5th. Cholesterine, *cholestérote.* Added to these are the salts found by Vauquelin, lactic acid, sulphur, and phosphorus, which form a part of the fats above named.

Before the brain was submitted to various kinds of treatment, it was deprived of its membranous covering and washed with cold water, in order to separate, as nearly as possible, all the blood with which it is always impregnated; it was then macerated and digested in cold æther, and all that was soluble in this fluid was dissolved by maceration in repeated portions of it. The first contained but little of the fatty matter in solution; the æther appeared merely to expel the moisture of the brain, and they were separated together by decantation. The second portion of æther was very rich in fatty matter, and contained but slight traces of moisture: four macerations in æther are almost always sufficient to dissolve all the fatty portions of the brain. After treatment with æther, the brain was subjected to the action of boiling alcohol of sp. gr. 0·817: the boiling solutions were filtered every time, and the boilings were repeated until they gave no precipitate on cooling; there then remained a mere agglomerated fibrous mass, which M. Couerbe calls *névriline.*

The alcoholic solutions were mixed when cold, and filtered to separate the deposit, which was washed with cold æther, in order to separate the fat soluble in this liquid; this is susceptible of crystallizing, and perfectly similar to that which is found in the æthereal solution, and which is *cholestérote.*

The powder obtained from the alcohol is very white and pure: it becomes slightly translucid by drying, and has then the appearance of purified wax. The alcohol from which this white powder precipitated, gave more of it by evaporation, mixed with some fatty matter which was separated by æther. The substance dissolved by the alcohol appears to be similar to that described by Vauquelin. M. Couerbe calls it *cerebrote.*

Towards the end of the evaporation of the alcohol, a sort of fluid fat is deposited, which is not the white fatty matter; it dissolves in æther, and is converted into oil during the spontaneous evaporation of that fluid. The alcoholic residue contains only osmazome, a free acid, and some inorganic salts.

The æthereal solution was distilled, in order to obtain the æther as well as the substances which it had dissolved. These were put into a capsule, in order to finish the expulsion of the æther. The fatty matters obtained were in considerable quantity, and in the state of a whitish, homogeneous, adhesive mass, under which there was frequently whitish granular fatty matter, almost entirely formed of cerebrote; this appearance was constant in the brains of healthy persons. This fatty matter was then treated with a small quantity of æther, which dissolved it entirely when free from the whitish granular fatty matter, but only partially when that was present.

This cerebrote is always found in the mass, distinct from other elements which accompany it when extracted from healthy persons; but, on the contrary, sufficiently combined with them to become soluble in a small proportion of æther, when taken from the brain of a maniac.

When, then, æther leaves any white substance, it is separated by the filter, and when æther dissolves it entirely, it is to be evaporated to obtain more of the substance; the residue is to be subjected to the action of boiling alcohol, which dissolves the three fatty matters, among which is the cerebrote, and leaves undissolved a yellow solid fat resembling wax. The substance is almost totally insoluble in alcohol: it is to be washed several times with boiling alcohol to separate extraneous matters. The substance is not yet pure; it contains another peculiar yellow matter that is separated by cold æther, which dissolves the greater part of the mass, and leaves the other portion in the form of a brown powder. By filtering and washing this brown powder with æther, and then evaporating the æthereal solution, both these substances are obtained.

The portion soluble in æther is of a fawn colour: it cannot be sufficiently dried to be pulverized; the other portion is of a lighter colour, readily dries, and is easily reduced to a fine powder by trituration. The first M. Couerbe calls *céran-céphalote*, and the second *stéarconote.*

When the alcohol, holding the remaining matters in solution, is filtered through animal charcoal, and is exposed to spontaneous evaporation, it deposits a considerable number of crystals, which are very white and have a greasy lustre: they are to be pressed in fine linen, and the alcohol by evaporation furnishes more crystals, which are to be added to the first.

When the alcohol has been weakened by repeated evaporations, it becomes turbid, and yields crystals of the same matter mixed with red oil, which precipitates to the bottom of the vessel; it is difficult to obtain this in a pure state. There often comes down with it some solid matters which give it consistence, and which give it the appearance of fat or even several fatty matters. In order to separate the oil, it must be subjected to a slight pressure in a cloth, and alcohol poured upon it, which leaves the crystals. This alcohol is turbid on account of the oil which it contains. Some æther is to be added to it, which redissolves the oil, and renders the liquor clear, when exposed to spontaneous evaporation. A part of the æther slowly evaporates; the remainder holds the crystalline matter in solution, and allows the oil, as it is formed, to precipitate to the bottom of the liquid. When the stratum is rather thick, it is to be removed by a pipette and filtered, and it is then pure and reddish. This oil M. Couerbe calls *éléancephol*, or oil of the brain.

As to the very abundant portion of the brain remaining after treatment with æther and alcohol, and which the author calls *névriline*, it is partly composed of albumen, coagulated globules, and of a membranous substance soluble in potash.

Analysis of the preceding Substances.

Cerebrote.—M. Vauquelin appears to have been acquainted with this substance, which he has described under the name of *white fatty matter*, and which has since been called *myclocone* by Kühn; but, according to some of the characters which M. Vauquelin has assigned to his white fatty matter, it seems that he did not obtain it pure, since he says that it is fusible and viscid, whereas cerebrote is infusible, and does not stain paper. When properly dried at a gentle heat it becomes friable, and may be pulverized; it is soluble in boiling alcohol, and but slightly so when it is cold. The process for extracting it is dependent upon this difference. It does not saponify with a solution of potash or soda, a property also observed by Vauquelin. Cerebrote is composed of

Carbon	67·818
Hydrogen	11·100
Azote	3·399
Sulphur	2·138
Phosphorus	2·332
Oxygen	13·213
	100·

Vauquelin does not mention the existence of sulphur in it.

Cérancéphalote.—This substance is solid, brown, insoluble in alcohol and in water, but dissolved by 25 times its weight of cold æther. It softens by heat, and without becoming perfectly fluid; when dried it is elastic, like caoutchouc. M. Vauquelin has not mentioned this substance, but Kühn appears to have had a glimpse of it. Sulphuric acid attacks it with great difficulty; nitric acid reduces it to its elements, and converts the sulphur and phosphorus into acids. It is composed of

Carbon	66·362
Hydrogen	10·034
Azote	3·250
Phosphorus	2·544
Sulphur	1·959
Oxygen	15·851
	100·

Stéarconote.—This is a fatty matter, which occurs mixed with the preceding. It is of a fawn colour, infusible and insipid, and by combustion gives an acid charcoal: Neither alcohol nor æther dissolves this substance; both the fixed and volatile oils readily dissolve it. Nitric acid takes it up after slight ebullition, and it reappears as a white fat, which is acid, soluble in boiling alcohol, and crystallizes in small laminæ, similar to margaric and stearic acids. This substance is composed of

Carbon	59·832
Hydrogen	9·246
Azote	9·352
Phosphorus	2·420
Sulphur	2·030
Oxygen	17·110
	99·990

Eléancephol.—This is a reddish liquor; its taste is disagreeable; it is soluble in æther, fixed and volatile oils, and alcohol, in all proportions. When heated, this substance dissolves the other matters of the brain readily, and these impart consistence to it. Its composition is similar to the preceding.

Cerebral Cholesterine.—A crystallizable fatty matter, which, according to some authors, must be the result of some morbid change. The constant and considerable quantity which M. Couerbe found in the brain induces the belief that it is a widely diffused organic animal element. It is well known that MM. Denis and Boudet have found it in the blood. The cerebral cholesterine is perfectly similar to that of the biliary calculi. Their analyses gave M. Couerbe the same results:

Carbon	84·895
Hydrogen	12·099
Oxygen	3·006
	100.

This analysis differs a little from that of M. Chevreul, as follows:

Carbon	85·095
Hydrogen	11·880
Oxygen	3·025
	100·

London Medical and Surgical Journal, 17th January, 1835.

60. *Ferro-cyanate of Quinia.*—M. Bertazzi has given the following process for obtaining this salt. Take one part of sulphate of quinia, which is to be triturated in a glass mortar, so as to reduce it to a very fine powder; then add this to one part and a half of ferro-cyanate of potassa dissolved in seven parts of boiling water; after they have been well mixed, pour the compound into a vial, and expose it to a sufficient heat to cause ebullition, shaking it from time to time. The solution lets fall a substance of a greenish yellow colour, and of an oily consistence. After decanting the fluid, this precipitate is to be well washed in distilled water, and then dissolved in concentrated alcohol, and subjected to a heat of about 100° F., then filtered and slowly evaporated; this will afford a crystalline mass, corresponding to three-fourths of the quinia employed. When dried, it is of a greenish yellow colour, and very bitter taste, first giving the sensation of quinia, and then of hydrocyanic acid. It is partially decomposed by cold water, and completely so by hot; it then forms two salts, the one soluble, the other insoluble. It is very soluble in boiling alcohol.—*Am. Journ. Pharm.* from *Annali Univ. de Med.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

61. *Letter of the Royal Academy of Medicine to the Minister of Public Instruction, in reply to his inquiry whether it would be suitable for the French Government to establish the Homœopathy Society as a legal body.*—"Sir, Homœopathy, which presents itself to you with all the delusions of novelty, is by no means a novelty in art or science. It is a system which has been erratic for twenty-five years. first in Germany, next in Prussia, afterwards in Italy, and now seeks to be introduced into France; but every where it has struggled in vain to be admitted within the pale of scientific medicine. Often, and for long periods, have the Academy undertaken the test of its worth, nay, some of the members of the Academy have dipped deeply in the inquiry of its basis, progress, practice, and effects.

"Amongst us, as elsewhere, homœopathy has been submitted to rigorous logical tests, and from the onset logic has pointed out in the system such a crowd of formal opposition to the best established facts, such a number of most striking contradictions, so many absurdities palpable to the eyes of enlightened men, that the system is merely calculated to act on the credulity of the multitude, who do not think.

"We have submitted homœopathy to the proof of investigation in facts; it has gone through the crucible of experiment, and observation has furnished us as well as others with most categorical and most severe replies to our inquiries. For though some certain cures performed, as they say, by homœopathy may be blazoned forth, we know that the biased affection of a prejudiced imagination on the one hand, and on the other the healing powers of nature, call into question their title to success. On the other side, observation has given evidence of the mortal dangers of such proceedings in those frequent and severe cases that our art is called on to treat, where the physician may do as much evil by not acting at all, as by doing too much.

"Reason and experience are then both combined in expelling forcibly from the